



DOLGELLAU URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL

HEALTH REPORT

for the year

1962.

DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

Jan - June, 1962. D. Felix Richards, M.A., M.B., B. Chir.
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
D.T.M. & H., D(Obst), R.C.O.G.,

July - Dec 1962. Hugh Francis, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

Jan-Septr.1962. Ronald Pugh Jones, A.R.S.H.,M.A.P.H.I.

Octr - Decr 1962. William Roy Smith, C.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

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DOLGELLAU URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

To The Chairman and Members of the Dolgellau Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have honour to submit the Annual Health Report for the year ending December 31st 1962.

The population estimate given by the Registrar General was the same as that given for 1961.

In 1962 there were 37 births (30 in 1961) as compared with 41 deaths (27 in 1961). As in 1961 there were no illegitimate births. There was one stillbirths and one infant which was the same number as in 1961.

Most of the deaths (29 out of 45) can be attributed to four causes, Cancer, Vascular lesions of the nervous system, Heart and Coronary artery disease. The commonest sites for cancer, as in previous years are the lung and stomach.

Two new cases of pulmonary disease were notified but there were no deaths from the disease.

The only other notification of an infectious disease was one case of measles.

I should like to thank the Public Health Inspectors Mr. Ronald Pugh Jones and Mr. Smith for their valuable assistance and also the Clerk Mr. Evan Williams and all the officials of the Council for their willingly given help.

Finally I wish to thank the Council for the consideration and support that was always given to me.

I am,

Your obedient servant.

H. FRANCIS.

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

SECTION A.

Area of Dolgellau URBAN DISTRICT	1,127.
Rateable Value	£28,947
Population (Registrar General's figures)	2,470
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£113. 13. 1
Number of inhabited houses (According to the Rate Books) at the end of year.	798

VITAL STATISTICS.

Comparability Factors	-
Births	1.02.
Deaths	1.01

BIRTHS.

LIVE BIRTHS.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Total37.....	21	16
Legitimate.....37.....	21	16
Illegitimate.....Nil.....	NIL	NIL

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population - 14.98.
1961 figures - 12.10.

Illegitimate Live Births (per 1,000 population) - nil.

STILL BIRTHS.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Total.....	nil	1

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population - 0.40

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births -26.31 .

TOTAL BIRTHS

(Live and Still)

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Live - 37	21	16
Still - 1	nil	1

DEATHS

Deaths of Infants under one year.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Total	1	nil
Legitimate	1	nil
Illegitimate	nil	nil

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births - 27.02
1961 Figures - 33.33

Deaths of Legitimate Infants
Mortality (per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births) - 27.02.

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Deaths of Illegitimate Infants
Mortality (per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births) - Nil.

<u>DEATH OF INFANTS UNDER 4 weeks.</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Total	1	nil
Legitimate	1	nil
Illegitimate.....	nil	nil.

<u>DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 WEEK OF AGE.</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Total.....	1	nil
Legitimate.....	1	nil
Illegitimate.....	nil	nil

Neo-natal Mortality Rate. - 27.02

Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate - 27.02

Perinatal Mortality Rate - 55.5

MATERNAL DEATHS (including abortion) - 1

Maternal Mortality (Rate per 1,000 Live
Still Births) - 26.31.
1961 Figures - nil.

<u>DEATHS</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Total Number 41	17	24
Rate per. 1,000 population - 16.59		
1961 figures - 10.93		

<u>DEATHS FROM CANCER.</u>		
Total Number 6.....	3	3
Rate per 1,000 population - 2.43		
1961 figures - 1.62.		

<u>DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS.</u>	
Total Number..... Nil	
Rate per 1,000 population - Nil	
1961 Figures - Nil	

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(1) Public Health Officers of the Authority.

One Medical Officer of Health.
One Public Health Inspector and Surveyor.

(2) Laboratory Facilities.

Milk and Water samples - Public Health Laboratory, Shrewsbury and
Conway.
Chemical analysis of water - The Public Analyst, Chester.

(3) Ambulance Facilities

4 Ambulances in Dolgellau

(4) Infant Welfare Clinics.

Held twice monthly at Ebenezer (Wesleyan) Chapel Vestry.

(5) Ante Natal Clinics

Held twice monthly at Dolgellau Cottage Hospital.

(6) Othopaedic Clinic.

At Dolgellau Hospital on the 2nd Thursday of each month.

After care clinic on the 4th Thursday of each month.

(7) Tuberculosis Clinic.

Twice monthly at Dolgellau Hospital.

Mass Radiography Unit attends approximately monthly on dates

(8) Immunisation. advertised.

Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanuse and Poliomyelitis and Vaccination against Smallpox, carried out in Infant Welfare Clinic and general practitioner surgeries.

(9) Hospitals.

One Hospital at Dolgellau.

(X) Infectious Diseases.

Total number of Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the year = 1.

Scarlet Fever Nil.
Bacillary Dysentery Nil.

Whooping Cough Nil.
Measles One
Infantile Paralysis Nil.

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES.

Pulmonary	Total 2
	<u>Males</u> 1 Females. 1
Non Pulmonary	Total Nil
	Males Nil Females Nil.

TUBERCULOSIS DEATHS.

Pulmonary	Total Nil
	Males Nil Females Nil
Non-Pulmonary	Total Nil.
	Males Nil Females Nil

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases and Mortality during 1962 in age groups.

Age Periods	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0								
1								
2								
3								
5								
10								
15								
20								
25								
35								
45								
55								
65	1.	1.						
75								

CAUSES OF DEATH 1962.

	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
Tuberculosis Pulmonary.....		
Tuberculosis other.....		
Syphilitic disease.....		
Other infective and parasitic diseases.....		
Cancer stomach.....	Nil.	3.
" Lungs.....	1.	Nil.
" Breast.....		
" other sites.....	2.	Nil.
Leukaemia, aleukaemia.....		
Diabetes.....		
Vascular lesions of nervous system.....	3.	4.
Coronary disease, angina.....	1.	1.
Hypertension with heart disease.....	1.	2.
Other heart disease.....	2.	7.
Other circulatory disease.....		
Influenza.....		
Pneumonia.....		
Bronchitis	4.	1.
Ulcer of stomach.....		
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.....		
Nephritis and nephrosis.....		1.
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.....		1.
Hyperplasia of prostate.....		
Congenital malformation.....	1.	
other defined and ill-defined disease.....		1.
Motor vehicle accidents.....	1.	
All other accidents.....	1.	1.
Suicide.....		
Other diseases of respiratory system.....		

FOOD HYGIENE.

During the year supervision and advice was given to food handlers generally.

No of prosecutions Nil.

GENERAL.

HOUSING

Slum Clearance.

Another year has elapsed and the problem of clearing substandard housing accommodation has not improved. This is a formidable task and whilst it is anticipated that a number of properties can be converted and improved to provide dwellings of reasonable standards of fitness and amenities, other dwellings will have to be demolished and cleared. A vital link in the slum clearance campaign is the provision of new dwellings to re-house displaced families. Unfortunately due to the extremely high cost of building in the area, it is feared that rentals of new houses will prove to be a heavy drain on the family budget.

REDEVELOPMENT AREAS.

Following lengthy negotiations with the owners the acquisition of the properties in the Sarn Road and South Street redevelopment scheme was completed during the year. Work was commenced in the redevelopment of the Old Church School in the Ten Felin Area. The scheme will ultimately provide eight houses. The high cost of work will no doubt reflect on the rentals even having regard to the financial aid which will be forthcoming from the National funds.

The Council also completed the acquisition of the properties at Arran Road, i.e. Nos 1-11 Arran Road and Nos 1-5 Arran Court, in August 1962. The Council repaired some of the houses to improve the lot of the tenants but it is proposed to demolish the properties when the Scheme of Redevelopment is completed and the proposed road works envisaged by the Ministry of Transport proceed. At the same time a block of Flats will be erected on land available at the rear of these properties and the tenants will eventually be rehoused in satisfactory living units.

Council House Building.

Work was continued on the erection of 18 Flats on the Lombard Street Site. The Scheme provides for 12 two bedroom Flats and 6 one bedroom flats for old age persons.

The Council have also under consideration the erection of 64 dwellings on the Penycaeau site.

Overcrowding.

There are no cases of legal overcrowding in the district.

Private Housing Development.

During the year the 4 Police Houses at Penycaeau site were completed.

The eight houses on the Penycefn Road Site were also completed and occupied during the year.

Erection of 8 houses were commenced on the Fronallt Site, 7 on the Fronwnion Site, and 2 on the Llwyn/Llanfachreth Road site, of the last mentioned two houses, one was completed during the month of November.

Improvement Grants.

There has been no great demand for either discretionary or standard grants during the year and this is a matter that proves disappointing. The Council are prepared to encourage improvement of existing dwellings within the district.

6 applications for standard grants and 2 applications for discretionary grants were received and approved during the year.

4 grant aided schemes- 2 Discretionary and 2 standard, were completed during the year.

The total number of improvement schemes completed since the commencement of the Act now amounts to 27.

ACTION TAKEN UNDER THE HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

No clearance areas were declared during the year.

UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED.

After informal action by local authority.....	3
After notice under (a) Public Health Act.....	Nil
After notice under (b) Sections 9 & 16 Housing Act.....	Nil.

HOUSING MANAGEMENT.

The Council employ direct labour for the carrying out of maintenance and repairs to Council Houses. Major works of repair are put out on contract. Contracts to render the external walls of 16 houses were completed during the year.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The Council continued to carry out a 'twice weekly' collection of refuse during the year and most dwellings in the district enjoy this service.

The Coedffriddarw tip is still being used for the disposal of house and trade refuse and there is still adequate tipping space available.

STREET CLEANSING.

Cleansing of trunk roads and classified roads is carried out by the County Highways Authority, whilst the unclassified roads are attended to by this authority. Every opportunity is taken to remind the public of the necessity to keep the town "litter free" and litter bins have been provided in various parts of the town. The Council have for some years adopted a byelaw for the prevention of fouling of footways by dogs.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

Conveniences are provided for both sexes at the Cae Marian Park and also at the Free Library. The Council have under consideration the provision of additional conveniences in the town, but as yet have not been able to secure a suitable site.

A male and female part-time daily attendants are employed to clean the Public Conveniences. Paper hand towel machines are available in the conveniences.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

There has been no change in the system during the year and the sewer discharges into the sea outfall.

The public sewer was extended to the Penybanc area which provided facilities for 3 houses to be connected, thus abolishing the pail closets.

The sewers were regularly inspected and flushed constantly. Test baiting for rodent infestation was carried out during the year.

Steps were commenced for connecting properties in the Masscaled area, including the new private properties at Fronwnion, to the public sewer.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.
MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION AND FOOD HYGIENE.

The private slaughterhouse in Arran Road was in regular use throughout the year and it is anticipated the premises will comply fully with the Regulations in the near future. Improved arrangements were secured for the disposal of waste products by frequent and regular collections during the 'peak kill' period.

Meat derived from animals slaughtered on the premises is supplied to a large area of the surrounding districts, and there is a steady increase in the gross total of animals slaughtered.

The High quality of the home produced meat was again very evident.

The total number of animals slaughtered during the year is as follows:-

<u>CATTLE</u>	<u>CALVES</u>	<u>SHEEP AND LAMBS</u>	<u>PIGS</u>	<u>TOTAL.</u>
10	2	6306	256	6574.

INCIDENCE OF DISEASE IN ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED AND INSPECTED.

TUBERCULOSIS. There was no incidence of tuberculosis.

<u>DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS.</u>	<u>Total killed.</u>	<u>Carcases condemned.</u>	<u>Part carcases or organ condemned</u>	<u>Percentage of animals infected.</u>
Sheep	6306	-	43	.68
Pigs	256	-	7	2.5
Calves.	2	-	-	-
Cattle	10	-	1	10%

Part Carcase or organs condemned.

<u>Disease or Condition.</u>	
6 Pigs Livers	Parasitic.
1 Pigs Lungs	Pneumonia.
34 Sheep Livers	Parasitic.
9 Sheep Lungs	Parasitic.
1 Ox Liver	Hepatitis.

FOOD INSPECTION IN SHOPS.

The following Food was surrendered and condemned during the year :-

Tinned Meat	98lbs 10ozs.
Other Tinned Food	5 cwt. 19lbs 8ozs
Fruit	6 cwt. 80 lbs.
Vegetables	428lbs
Cod	4 stone.
Boiling Joint	4 lbs 4 oz.
8 Brace Pheasants	
24 Woodpigeons.	
12 Cucumbers.	
80 grapefruits.	
Tinned Milk	- 24 pts.

FOOD HYGIENE.

Food premises are inspected periodically and the attention of food handlers is drawn to the necessity of compliance with the Regulations. Routine visits together with persuasive action has assisted in encouraging occupiers of food establishments to improve their premises and methods of food handling.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water for the town supply was drawn from Llyn Cynwch throughout the year and no shortage was experienced.

The anxieties experienced due to the doubtful condition of the trunk main have been somewhat alleviated by the Mawddach Joint Water Committee being now in an advanced stage with their preparations for the laying of a new trunk main to serve the town.

Samples of the supply were taken from consumer taps in the town and submitted for bacteriological examination. The samples were reported to be satisfactory.

ICE CREAM PREMISES.

Manufacturing Premises	Nil.
Number of Retailers	9

RODENT CONTROL.

The Council continue to carry out their obligations under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 and the Rodent Operator is employed part time, being also responsible for the Dolgellau R.D.C. and Barmouth U.D.C.

No of premises inspected.

Local Authority	12
Dwelling Houses (including Council houses)	434
All other (including business premises)	177
Agricultural	14
No of premises found infested	78
Treated by Local Authority	78
Notices served under Section 4	Nil
No of "block control schemes" carried out	Nil.

FACTORIES ACT 1937.

No of premises on Register	18
No inspected re cleanliness	18
No inspected re sanitary conditions	18
Defects found	3
Defects remedied	3

INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT BY PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936.

Inspection re nuisance	25
Drainage	55
Sewerage	8
Public Conveniences	103
Refuse Collection	77
Refuse Tip	30
Rivers and Streams	3
New Buildings etc.	45

Sanitary Inspections of the Area.

Disinfestation	2
Water Supply	143
Private Water Supply	1
Street Cleansing	25
Piggeries	1
V erminious premises	1
Infestations	3
re: Building Byelaws	33
Dangerous Buildings	1

HOUSING.

Housing Act 1957. Unfit Houses	20
re: Improvement Grants	8
Public Health Act, 1936 re Defects	20
Rent Act 1957	2
re: Council House Repairs.	253

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

Fried Fish Shops.	1	Bakehouses	7
Greengrocers	23	Grocers	36
Butchers	67	Cafes	18
Ice Cream Retailers	9	Food Stalls	8
Dairy	2	Visits to slaughterhouse	171.
